

Dear Parents,

Our mission is to provide the safest, most reliable transportation for students in a timely manner.

Did you know the school bus is 27 times safer as a mode of transportation to and from school than an automobile?

### Frequently Asked Questions

**Are bus stops the same every year?** No. While stops are fairly consistent from year to year, changes may be made based on student enrollment.

**My child left an item on the bus. How do I get it back?** Items will be held on the bus and may be claimed by the student. Any unclaimed items are placed in the lost and found and if not claimed are donated to area missions twice a year.

**Can my child have a friend ride to school or home with him/her?** Yes, as long as you fill out a "Change in Bus Rider Form" TWO days prior to the change.

**How do I find or obtain a Change in Bus Rider Form?** You can find this on Adams website at [adamschristianschool.org](http://adamschristianschool.org). Click on the *ABOUT* tab, then choose *POLICY*. Scroll down until you see *TRANSPORTATION*. You will see a large orange box with the words *Temporary Change in Bus Rider*. Click on that box and it will bring you right to the form. You can electronically send this form to the office, if that does not work for you please print the form and send it to the school office with your student.

**If my child is absent from school, do I need to notify the bus driver?** YES, if your child is the only one at a bus stop, it would be appreciated.

**How should I notify the driver if my children aren't riding the bus?** If you are not riding in the morning you should contact the family ahead of you on the route. If you are the first family on the route please contact the driver BEFORE he/she leaves with her bus. If you are not riding in the afternoon you should contact the school office before 2pm. They will inform the driver for you.

**Are bus drivers allowed to use their cell phones on the bus?** NO. Bus drivers may not text or use a cell phone on a school bus. (Michigan State Law) Except for emergency situations!

**Can my student bring his large band instrument or project on the bus?** It is Michigan State Law that all carry-ons must be held by the students. If it cannot fit on the student's lap, we cannot transport it.

### Questions and Answers Provided by the Michigan Department of Education

**My child is in kindergarten. Will the bus pick my child up in front of my house?** There are no laws or regulation for transporting regular education students enrolled in kindergarten.

**Is there a law about how far my child has to walk to the bus stop?** No law specifies the maximum distance a student may walk to the bus stop.

**What are the other factors involved in establishing where the school bus stops?** There are many factors which should be taken into consideration when we establish the placement of a bus stop. The primary concern is visibility of the bus and the consideration of stopping distances necessary for other motor vehicles in order to accomplish safe loading and unloading of children. In general, state law requires 400 feet of clear and continuous visibility on a highway where speed limit is over 35 mph, and 200 feet where the speed limit is less than 35 mph.

## Procedures and Guidelines

**Transporting students on school buses is a service for eligible students; therefore, it is necessary to keep the following conditions in mind:**

As much as possible Adams Christian School buses will not go down a cul-de-sac street. Students may need to walk out to catch the bus at the closest assigned stop.

Appropriate student conduct must be maintained in order to assure safe transportation for all students. Please refer to the Rules.

Designated pickup and drop-off points defined by the Transportation Department must be adhered to in order to continue an efficient transportation system. Adams Christian School buses cannot accommodate a “personalized” service for each student due to the complexity of the system and the effects multiple changes can make on the route and schedule. Each student will be picked up and dropped off at their assigned bus stop.

According to Adams Christian Schools Transportation Guidelines, each student will be allowed to have one pick-up and drop-off location, five days a week. Students shall not be permitted to use any other bus without prior permission from the Director of Transportation.

## Bus Routes

You will find the bus route for your family attached in this email. You will note that only AM pick up times are printed. Please note that these are approximate times and that times and locations are subject to change and adjustments. Please understand that at the beginning of the year, buses may run late because of students getting acquainted with new surroundings. The transportation department and the driver will work through any changes needed in the bus run, until it is efficient and timely. Parents will be notified of any major changes by the transportation department via a note home to parents or phone call. Once a run has been established and all kinks worked out, the bus driver will maintain a reliable schedule. Of course, traffic, bad roads and weather will play a major part in staying on schedule.

If you have any transportation questions please feel free to contact anyone on the transportation Committee. We covet your prayers as we begin a new school year.

Thank you,  
Derek Kuiper, Transportation Committee Chairman  
Jordan Dykstra, Todd Kooienga; Transportation Committee  
Melissa Looyenga, Director of Transportation/Transportation Supervisor